

Dear Parents,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! My name is Paul Scheiderer and I am the new Director of Music at Immanuel Lutheran Church & School. Part of my background is that I am a 2002 graduate of Concordia University in Ann Arbor. I married Heidi (Fitzgerald) Scheiderer, who did her student teaching here at Immanuel that same year. I have served the last 9 years at St. Luke Lutheran Church & School in Clinton Township, Michigan directing their Church and School Music Program, while periodically serving as a classroom teacher. I am hopeful of having the opportunity of meeting and getting to know you.

My duties involving the school this year will be directing the Jubilate and Chapel Choirs; directing the Advanced and Beginning Handbells; and working with Mrs. Schneider and the Advanced Band. I will also be teaching classroom music and working with other events that emerge throughout the year (Solo and Ensemble, Circle the State, and the Spring Musical)

I am looking forward to working with the talents at Immanuel, especially with the choirs and handbells that I will be directing. I want to promote a positive experience for the students in our choirs and for that reason grading and expectations are very simple and easy to obtain.

- Choir students will be evaluated when we rehearse on their effort, contribution to the ensemble, and positive attitude that they bring into the room. Absent students will be excused from this evaluation. Students will have to bring negative energy into the room for a grade deduction.
- Attendance is the root for positive or negative experiences in musical ensembles. To prevent a negative experience, the expectation will be that students are present when their ensemble is scheduled to perform or worship. This is generally about 10 times per year (*please see schedule*). Reasonable exceptions will be given for illness or special circumstance. Students will not be excused more than twice during a school year. Students will be deducted a letter grade if they are unexcused from a performance or worship service.
- Dress for school music performances or worship services will consist of white tops (shirts) and black or navy blue bottoms (dresses, pants). This will be consistent throughout the year and if not followed may result in a minor deduction if a distraction is presented. As always, modesty is expected to be followed in any school event.
- Students that give their best effort, dress appropriately and are present when we sing will receive an "A" grade. Talent is not a factor when assessing a student.
- Copies of the reverse schedule and other musical information can be found at my website <http://mrscheiderer.wikispaces.com>

I am very excited to be here. I am looking forward to having the opportunity of working with your children in the various places that they will be singing. Please see me if there is any way that I can be of assistance to you. May God Bless you now and always!

In Christ,

Paul Scheiderer

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My child _____ will participate in the following ensembles (Please circle all that apply)

- Jubilate Choir: 6th – 8th Choir
- Chapel Choir: 4th – 5th Choir
- Advanced Band: 6th – 8th Band (*Please speak to Mrs. Schneider if this is your first year of band*)
- Beginning Band: 5th Band
- Handbells: *Please indicate your child's grade* _____ (Handbells are for grades 4 – 8)
- My child will not be in a musical ensemble this year

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

